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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 8 MAR 54

SUBJECT

Research in Cholinesterase and Ergot/Staff Mem-
bers at Szege University Medical School/Student
Exchange Program with USSR and Satellite Countries.

NO. OF PAGES 4

**PLACE
ACQUIRED**NO. OF ENCLS.
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**SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.**

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

CHOLINESTERASE

1.

2.

3. Department of Physiology, Pecs University (Kálmán Lissák,
András ANGYÁN) Dr Lissák was trained in the
US and is regarded as an expert on nerve transmission.
Dr Angyán spent one year in the USSR and is working with
problems relating to synaptic transmission and the motor
end-plate. The rest of the department is probably home-
trained and consists of quite young people.

b. Department of Biophysics, Pecs University (Jenő Ernst and Associates). Dr Ernst, a one-time co-worker of Dr Szent-Györgi, is an internationally known authority on the physics of muscular work and developed a highly efficient department in the post-war years that receives full government support and no effort is spared to promote its work. One would think that these two institutions, which are located

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in one building, could develop a very capable research unit for the investigation of just such problems.

c. Department of Pharmacognosy, Szeged University.

It is a small department led by a PhD who specialized in problems of the pharmaceutical industry and was a highly regarded authority in most such problems).

d. There are no people in Budapest University

who were specifically interested in cholinesterase back in 1949 but they may have taken it up since. The Department of Pharmacology and Biochemistry are more or less accounted for by their diverse publications. Nothing much comes from Bacteriology and Pathophysiology but this problem does not appear to be in their line. Suspect little is heard from Physiology but this is rather due to inefficiency in the Department's work. However this department may be engaged in research that is not published.

ERGOT

3.

Research in this substances was conducted, up to 1949, mainly on request and with the financial help of the pharmaceutical industry. some departments at Szeged University, notably the above mentioned Pharmacognosy, Pharmacology (Jancsó) and Bacteriology (Ivanovics) were involved in some aspect or other of ergot alkaloid investigations.

SZEGED UNIVERSITY

4.

a. Department of Biochemistry. The former Department of Dr Szent-Györgi. His former co-workers are now either in the US or at Budapest University with Dr B F Straub. The present head of the department, unknown.

b. Department of Anatomy. Probably Dr Albert Gellért.

c. Department of Physiology. Bela Issekutz Jr son of the head of the Pharmacology Department at Budapest University. A well qualified investigator in his own right. One of the few departments that still submit - and are still accepted - works in western, now mainly French journals.

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d. Department of Pathology. Dr Korpásay, [REDACTED]

e. Department of Pathophysiology. Dr István Karády, a very ambitious and capable young man who was trained for a while with Dr Selye in Montreal. [REDACTED]

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f. Department of Bacteriology, Dr György Ivánovics [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Dr Ivánovics is regarded as one of the most capable young men in his field in the satellite countries. His particular field of interest is antibiotics and the mode of action of sulfa drugs.

g. Department of Pharmacology. Dr Miklos Jancsó, son of a famous Hungarian physician, he is a brilliant, erratic genius who created for himself quite an international reputation by the age of 30.

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h. Department of Medicine. Dr Botányi Sr is one of the most distinguished medical men in Hungary today. [REDACTED]

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5. [REDACTED]

Student exchange programs were at the postgraduate level and essentially in the planning stage. The program at that time was decidedly unpopular with the students concerned. If the language difficulties have successfully been overcome in the meantime, which is not too probable, the program may have been extended considerably.

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PHARMACEUTICALS

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The Hungarian pharmaceutical industry was not only self-supporting but also an important source of export in the field of chemical drugs. In organ-extracts some of the more important ones were imported from the West and in 1949 there were no locally produced antibiotics. The major pharmaceutical firms were CHINOIN, G RICHTER, WANDER, MAGYAR PHARMA (IG FARBE).

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